

BULLETIN

OF THE

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASTOR LENOX AND TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

VOL. X.

JUNE, 1906.

NO. 6.

REPORT FOR MAY.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

During the month of May there were received at the Library, by purchase, 983 volumes and 482 pamphlets ; by gift, 1,124 volumes and 2,746 pamphlets ; and by exchange, 270 volumes and 2,116 pamphlets, making a total of 2,377 volumes and 5,344 pamphlets.

There were catalogued 2,461 volumes and 3,468 pamphlets; the number of cards written was 13,321 and of slips for the copying machine 3,114; from the latter were received 12,488 cards.

The following table shows the number of readers, and the number of volumes consulted, in both the Astor and Lenox Branches of the Library, also the number of visitors to the Print Exhibition at the Lenox during the month :

	LENOX.	ASTOR.			TOTAL.
		Day.	Evening.	Total.	
No. of readers and visitors.....	4,482	11,616	1,753	13,369	17,851
No. of readers.	2,194	11,616	1,753	13,369	15,563
No. of readers, desk applicants.....	1,104	11,875	1,650	13,525	14,629
No. of volumes consulted by desk applicants.....	5,849	62,010	3,465	65,475	71,324
Daily average of readers.....	81	430	65	495	576
No. of visitors to Print Exhibition, etc.	2,685				

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT.

The most popular books of the month were (in non-fiction): Spargo's "Bitter Cry of the Children," Shaw's "Plays Pleasant and Unpleasant," "The Long Day"; (adult fiction): Ward's "Fenwick's Career," Beach's "The Spoilers," Wister's "Lady Baltimore"; (juvenile fiction): Alcott's "Little Women," Barbour's "Four in Camp," Burnett's "Little Princess."

CIRCULATION STATISTICS FOR MAY.

BRANCHES.	CIRCULATION.		NEW REGISTRA- TIONS.	READERS IN READING ROOM.		VOLUMES ACCE- SIONED.
	HOME USE. (VOLUMES.)	HALL USE. (READERS.)		ADULTS.	TOTAL.	
MANHATTAN.						
East Broadway, 33.....	12,512	829	202	2,307	2,556	285
East Broadway, 197.....	21,067	3,129	546			318
Rivington Street, 61.....	15,687	6,844	382	7,627	11,072	312
Le Roy Street, 66.....	9,455	3,098	204	1,168	3,814	116
Bond Street, 49.....	9,369	1,039	161	2,737	4,306	67
8th Street. 135 Second Ave.....	15,425	1,625	238	2,764	4,147	279
10th Street, 331 East.....	15,790	4,007	261	3,046	3,461	419
13th Street, 251 West.....	8,840	1,253	92	1,092	1,117	165
22d Street, 230 East.....	2,096	14	27			54
23d Street, 209 West.....	10,410	3,721	244			149
34th Street, 215 East.....	6,269	1,880	66			105
40th Street, 501 West.....	3,970		46			89
42d Street, 226 West.....	10,944	1,179	165			107
50th Street, 123 East.....	5,408	502	138	207	502	37
51st Street, 463 West.....	5,024	278	84	187	357	30
59th Street, 113 East.....	9,955	715	149	2,738	2,738	160
67th Street, 328 East.....	9,446	679	133	642	1,842	113
69th Street. 190 Amsterdam Ave....	10,141	520	145	3,282	4,457	84
Travelling Libraries.....	42,132					231
76th Street, 538 East.....	5,544	752	52	20	82	324
79th Street, 222 East.....	18,268	2,652	219	2,849	5,383	273
81st Street. 444 Amsterdam Ave....	11,731	2,844	185	2,269	2,844	266
Blind Library	842		1			6
86th Street. 536 Amsterdam Ave....	8,081	472	82	1,176	1,525	199
96th Street, 112 East.....	20,488	1,297	347	1,119	1,760	143
100th Street, 206 West.....	14,102	701	206	396	619	272
110th Street, 174 East.....	17,698	1,145	288	806	811	284
123d Street, 32 West.....	9,190	601	189	1,693	1,955	41
125th Street, 224 East.....	9,522	1,231	168	889	1,085	213
135th Street, 103 West.....	17,162	718	278	930	2,206	91
156th Street. 922 St. Nicholas Ave...	8,075	1,991	127			189
BRONX.						
140th Street and Alexander Ave.....	17,825	994	293	970	2,497	204
176th Street and Washington Ave...	14,731	291	244	761	1,412	204
Kingsbridge Ave., 2933.....	2,045	2,255	28			38
RICHMOND.						
Tottenville.....	2,188	683	16			30
Port Richmond.....	6,059	278	61	160	399	138
TOTALS.....	407,491	50,217	6,067	41,835	62,947	6,035

Important gifts of the month were received from the Colonial Secretary of the Bahamas, 3 volumes and 3 pamphlets, legislative documents; from the *Ministre des Finances et des Travaux*, Belgium, 9 volumes of departmental publications; from the Chamber of Commerce of Boulogne-sur-Mer, 4 volumes and 4 pamphlets, publications of the Chamber; from the Century Association, 395 volumes and 696 pamphlets, current periodicals, etc.; from Joseph C. Wilberding, 44 volumes of the "*Chicago Tribune*," 1894-1905; from Miss Blanche Dillaye, 26 of her etchings; from the Direction General des Douanes Egyptiennes, 7 volumes and 1 pamphlet, publications of the Department, and from the Egyptian Public Works Department the Report upon the administration of the Public Works Department, 1898 and 1900-1904, etc.; from Louis Lombard, a copy of his "*Observations d'un Musicien Americain*," translated into French by Raoul de Lagenardière, Paris, 1905; from the Chambre de Commerce de Lyon, 6 volumes and 6 pamphlets of its publications; from the Mayor of Nice, France, 1 volume and 2 pamphlets, official publications of the City; from the Burgomaster of Tournai, Belgium, 14 pamphlets, official publications of the City; from John A. Vanderbilt, 2 copies of the "*Album of the Second Battalion Duryea Zouaves*," 1906; from the Volta Bureau for the Diffusion of Knowledge to the Deaf, 9 volumes and 45 pamphlets, publications of the Bureau; from Victor E. Whitlock, the "*Case of Howard Cohen et al.*," respondents, against the Congregation Shearith Israel in the City of New York;" and for the German-American collection various gifts from Hermann Rosenthal, Julius A. Lemcke, Rev. John Rothensteiner, St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church of New York, and from the Weltbote Publishing Co., of Allentown, Pa.

At the Lenox Branch the exhibition of American etchings and of the Charles Stewart Smith Japanese prints has been continued and in addition some portraits and caricatures of the late Carl Schurz were placed on view, as was also the etched portrait of Paul Jones, by H. Toussaint, recently presented by the artist.

At the Astor Branch plates from the "*Royal Collection of Buckingham Palace*" are now on exhibition.

The exhibitions furnished by the print department for display at the circulation branches remain unchanged.

Picture bulletins and temporary collections of books on special shelves at the circulation branches were as follows:

CHATHAM SQUARE, Flag day; EAST BROADWAY, Spring; HUDSON PARK, Spring days; OTTENDORFER, Art of Camera and kodak; TOMPKINS SQUARE, Volcanoes and earthquakes; EPIPHANY, Birds and flowers; MUHLENBERG, Tales of the motor car; 34TH STREET, Automobiles; GEORGE BRUCE, California, Birds, Fishing; WEBSTER, Earthquakes and great fires; YORKVILLE, Cat-tails and other tales, Summer reading; AMSTERDAM AVENUE, Brooklyn Bridge, Butterflies; 96TH STREET, Birds in the U. S., Fresh wild flowers; 125TH STREET, Spain, Gardening; 135TH STREET, Holland and its people, Stories of cats and dogs; TREMONT, Insect life; TOTTEVILLE, Earthquakes, Staten Island birds.

In addition there were bulletins on Henrik Ibsen at fourteen branches, on Decoration Day at twelve branches, on Arbor Day at six branches, on May birthdays of famous men and women at three branches, on King Alfonso at two branches, on Carl Schurz at two branches, and on new books at two branches.

The library has recently purchased one of the fifty sets of the "Woolley Photographs," comprising 500 plates mounted on cardboard, with descriptive letterpress, arranged in five boxes; also a set of the collotypes issued by the Oxford University Press for the Type Facsimile Society, comprising about 236 plates, and representing the issues for 1900-1905. These two series give in exact facsimile specimens of fifteenth-century typographical monuments, and furnish important material for the study of early typography.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE, AND
ADMIRAL LESTOCK AND GENERAL ST. CLAIR, RELATING
TO THE EXPEDITION AGAINST L'ORIENT IN 1746.

Selections from contemporary transcripts in the New York Public Library.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLES KNOWLES ESQR. GOVERNOR OF LOUISBOURG
TO CHARLES CORBET ESQR. SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY.

JULY 5TH 1746

It was very lucky no more Troops came with me, than the three Companies of Framptons Regiment, as it was near three weeks before we cou'd land them, most of the houses in Town haveing been pull'd down and burnt by the New England Troops last Winter, and not one of those left standing, but what wanted repairs. I am sorry to tell their Lordships, that in general it is the most miserable ruinous place I ever beheld.

The Barracks were also supply'd by Contract so as an entire Set of Bedding and Barrack Utensils will be necessary for such a number of Troops as His Majesty may think proper to keep here, one of the Ships being lost, which had the greatest part of the bedding on board, and that which arriv'd being damag'd and spoilt.

There are no Windmills or Watermills in or about the place, nor any Hand-mills in Store.

The French Staff officers of the Garrison, and the Civil Branch of their ordnance had yearly allowance for Lodgeings according to their Rank and Offices; but so many Houses being pull'd down, there will now want proper Lodgeings to be built for our Staff officers.

The French Garrison of this place consisted of about 6 or 700 men; the rest were Inhabitants who muster'd for Duty about 1400 men, besides those they might call in from the countrey; These lodg'd in town either in their own Houses, or in Quarters; The Regular Troops were lodg'd in the Citadel Barracks. The Garrison now here consists of about 2500 men; and upon the best calculation all the Barracks and Houses, which are left standing will not conveniently lodge 18 or 1900 men; so that there is a necessity of erecting the propos'd Barracks as fast as possible, as well for the Conveniency of the Troops here at present (who are excessively crowded) as for the others, who are expected from England, and to clear the Hospital which has been turned into a Barrack.

The Town in general has been badly built, and was in a most ruinous Condition; and by the Garrisons wanting Fewel last Year a great number of Houses and Inclosures were pull'd down; and those left standing, we are not only oblig'd to repair, but half build up to make quarters for lodgeing the officers and Soldiers, and all the Work-men we can possibly get, both from the Regiments here and from New England, are not sufficient to carry on the present immediate repairs.

GENERAL ST. CLAIR'S LETTER TO THE DUKE OF NEW CASTLE.

ON BOARD THE SUPERBE,

AUGUST 13TH, 1746

MY LORD,

Since I had last the Honour to write to your Grace, Mr. Lestock has been so oblidging as to communicate to me, the Extract of a Letter dated the 5th of July, from Commodore Knowles to the Board of Admiralty, by which I learn the ruinous Condition of the Town of Louisbourg, and the difficulties, which the Troops will probably labour under, with regard to Lodgeings, Fireing, and fresh provisions on their Arrival there. This My Lord, I reckon was not imagin'd by the Administration when the Instructions were last drawn, directing me to sail first to Louisbourg, and there to concert the proper Measures for the best disposition of Winter quarters for the troops entrusted to my Command. Nor could it at that time be foreseen, that we should unhappily meet with these contrary Winds, which have so long detain'd us here. But now when the Condition of the Town of Louisbourg is throughly known, and the Season is so far advanc'd that there is a possibility of the setting in of the North West wind, by the time that we arrive in that North Latitude, I flatter myself you will easily pardon my takeing the liberty of reminding your Grace, that there will be a good deal of time unnecessarily consum'd in attempting to sail to Louisbourg, which, 'tis much doubted if we can reach with the whole Fleet of Transports, and where, if we arrive, 'twill be impossible to have any part of the Forces accomodated with Winter quarters: Since we must afterwards proceed for that purpose to some other of His Majestie's Colonies in North America. This My Lord, I have ventur'd to suggest to your Grace presuming, that tis not improbable His Majesty may be pleas'd to make some Alterations, in the Admirals Instructions and mine, and order us to sail directly to New England, New York or some other of the more Southern Colonies, by which means, the passage for the Troops, may be render'd more safe and easy and all the other Inconveniences, apprehended from proceeding to Louisbourg will be avoided; And the Army kept in such a good Condition as to be fit to execute any plan of Military operation, which His Majesty may be pleas'd to send us from Brittain or which may be resolv'd on by the Council, appointed by the Instructions; either of which shall be conducted, in the most careful and expeditious manner possible by him who has the Honour to be &ca.

I. ST. CLAIR.

To His Grace The Duke of New Castle.

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE'S JOINT LETTER TO ADMIRAL LESTOCK AND GEN'L ST. CLAIR IN ANSWER TO THEIR JOINT LETTER OF AUGUST 23D.

WHITEHALL AUGUST 26TH 1746

GENTLEMEN

I receiv'd late on Saturday night your Letter of that Date and laid it before the King

His Majesty finding by your former letters that it would be impracticable for you to proceed this Season with the Squadron and Troops under your Command further than Boston, and being desirous that they shou'd be employ'd at present, in such manner as shou'd be most for His Majesty's Service, and consistent with The King's intention of sending them to North-America, as early in the Spring, as the navigation, in those Seas will permit. The King has commanded me to acquaint you with his Pleasure, that you shou'd forthwith sail with all the Ships and Transports that are design'd for North America, either to Port L'Orient, or to Rochefort, or to Rochelle, and endeavour to make Yourselves Masters of such of them, as You shall think it most adviseable to attempt, and if you should succeed in getting possession of any of those places, You will make such further Motions in the Countrey, and undertake such operations as you shall think most likely to alarm and annoy the French, and thereby procure a Diversion in Flanders, which is one great End of the Expedition.

And if you shall have Information, that any number of Protestants in those parts are dispos'd to take up arms, and put themselves under your protection, You are to give them whatever assistance shall be in your Power

If upon your arrival, at Port L'Orient, Rochfort or Rochelle, you should find that those places are too strong to be attempted with any probability of Success, it is then His Majesty's pleasure that you shou'd proceed to any other Port or Place on the Western Coast of France, where you may have Information, or shall yourselves be of opinion that it may be practicable to make an attempt with any probability of Success and where the Navigation may not be too hazardous for the Ships and Transports; and you are there to land the Troops, lay the Countrey under Contribution, and annoy the Enemy in the best Manner you are able, in order to procure the Diversion above mention'd

If it should please God to grant you such Success, that you should be able to establish yourselves in any part of the Coast His Majesty will then order you a further Reinforcement of Troops to be forthwith sent from hence.

As the view and Design in this Expedition, is to procure if possible a Diversion in Flanders, from the Danger the French may apprehend for that part of their Coast, when they see such a considerable number of Ships and Troops upon it. His Majesty leaves it to you to act in such manner as you shall think the most proper for that Purpose, provided those places mention'd in the former part of this Letter are found too strong to be attack'd.

I mention'd to you in my former Letter, the going up the River Bourdeaux, in order to make an Attempt there: His Majesty is inclin'd to think, that such a force of Ships and Troops, with such ordnance Stores must create great Alarm in France, and consequently oblige them to send a considerable force to oppose them.

If you should find it practicable to burn any of The French Men of War or Merchant Ships in any of their ports, His Majesty doubts not but you will endeavour to do it.

It is His Majesty's pleasure, that you shou'd sail as soon as ever the Wind is fair, the Success of such an expedition depending entirely upon the Secrecy and Surprise of it; And it is The Kings positive Command, that you shou'd not impart it to any one person, one moment sooner than is absolutely necessary for the Execution of it.

If after your arrival upon the Western Coast of France, and the best Intelligence you can get of the Situation and Strength of the Ports and Places there, you shou'd find it impracticable to make use of the Forces under your Command, on any part of that Coast, so as to answer the end and view of sending you thither, It is then His Majesty's pleasure, that the Transports with all the Troops, shou'd proceed under a proper Convoy to Cork and Kinsale, and that the Troops shou'd be disembark'd there and remain till the Season of the Year shall make it practicable to send them to North America; And You Admiral Lestock are in that Case to send a proper Convoy with the Transports to Cork and Kinsale, and to return yourself with the Squadron to Spithead.

You Admiral Lestock will endeavour to provide yourself with such Pilots as you may want, in the most Secret manner possible.

His Majesty will expect to have an Account of your Proceedings, by every occasion that offers; and I hope soon to hear, that you are sail'd on your Expedition, in which I heartily wish you good Success, And am

Gentlemen, etc.

HOLLES NEWCASTLE.

To Adm'l Lestock and Lt. Genl. St. Clair.

ADMIRAL LESTOCK'S AND GENERAL ST. CLAIR'S JOINT LETTER TO THE DUKE OF
NEWCASTLE IN ANSWER TO HIS GRACE'S OF SEPTEMB. THE 11TH.

ON BOARD THE PRINCESSA
IN PLYMOUTH SOUND SEPTR. 15TH 1746

MY LORD

We were Honour'd with His Majesty's Commands, by Your Grace's Letter of the 11th Inst., which we receiv'd late on Saturday night.

Since our last to Your Grace of the 9th, the Wind has been contrary, with a great Sea and a thick Fog, till Saturday morning when the Admiral made the Signal to unmoor, and accordingly employ'd all the boats in the Squadron with a Lieut. in each, and two Captains to superintend the whole in order to get the Transports and Storeships out from Cat Water, where they had shelter'd themselves from the late bad weather, since which there has not been an opportunity to get any of them out

And we have the pleasure to assure Your Grace, that by the extraordinary dilligence and great fatigue all day and night in the officers and Men, sent on this important Duty the Transports and Storeships were all got out into the Sound ready for sailing, and had it not been calm yesterday forenoon, till the Sea breeze came in at South west, which continued all day, whereby we were prevented from sailing, we shou'd enjoy'd a day sooner the infinite Satisfaction of dispatching Your Graces Messenger with the news that we were put to Sea, in order to proceed in our Design on Port L'orient, pursuant to the Kings last Orders as the most

adviseable, for answering the great end of the expedition, and His Majesty's general view of sending us thither

That Your Grace may be fully satisfied that there has not been a moments time lost, in doing our utmost to pursue the King's Commands, and somewhat acquainted with the Harbour of Cat Water, and the great difficulty of getting out from thence, so great a number of Transports and Storeships, as those tack'd to the present expedition: Admiral Lestock begs leave to assure Your Grace, that Admiral Medley about a twelvemonth ago, when he sail'd from this place for the Mediterranean, was eight days in getting the Trade under his Convoy out of the Catwater into the Sound; therefore we think it extremely fortunate That our endeavours for His Majesty's Service, have been attended with such Success in this Point; and are not only persuaded, that Your Grace will be pleased to concur with us in the same opinion, but that we have not lost any opportunity whereby it was possible for the Squadron and Transports, to proceed farther than this Port

Capt. Wickham of the Panther, haveing been appointed by the Lords of the Admiralty to convey from this Port the two Battalions of Guards and Majr. Genl. Huske's Regiment of Foot. The admiral in obedience to His Majesty's Commands by Your Grace's letter of the 3d Inst. has given him orders to proceed off of Ushant, and then to open a sealed packet containing Directions, where he shou'd immediately proceed in order to join us. A Duplicate of which orders is left in the hands of the Commissioner at this Port, directed for the Commanding officer of His Majesty's Ships, that are to convey those troops, lest Capt. Wickham shou'd be countermanded. So that unless the seal'd orders from the Lords of the Admiralty, which have been sent to Capt. Wickham, to be open'd off of Ushant should clash with the Admirals orders and be contradictory to them there can be no Mistake. And lest they shou'd, or to prevent any possibility of a mistake, we submit it to Your Grace, whether Capt. Wickham shou'd not be directed, to follow the orders the Admiral has given him; A duplicate of which is left with the Commissioner.

By Your Grace's letter of the 23d past, His Majesty's pleasure is, that if after our arrival upon the Western Coast of France, and the best Intelligence we can get of the Situation and Strength of the Ports and places there, we shou'd find it impracticable to make use of the force under our Command on any part of that Coast, so as to answer the end and view of sending us thither that then the Transports with all the Troops shou'd proceed under a proper Convoy to Cork and Kinsale, and that the Troops shou'd be disembark'd there and remain till the Season of the Year shall make it practicable to send them to North America. But as two Battallions of Foot Guards and Majr. General Huske's Regm't of Foot, have been since order'd to proceed to join us; which if they do, we humbly presume, in case, we shou'd not be able to establish ourselves on any part of the Western Coast of France, That by those Instructions, which say all the Troops, that nevertheless it is not His Majesty's Intention, that those Troops shou'd also be carried to Cork or Kinsale. But Your Grace will, as soon as it is proper communicate to us the Kings orders, with regard to their being dispos'd of.

The Admiral has thought proper to stop every vessel from going to Sea, by which the Enemy might gain any Intelligence of our sailing, and particularly

desir'd the Commanding officer of the Garrison at Plymouth to stop a Dutch Galliot, bound to Bourdeaux, for forty eight hours after we are sail'd, which Caution he hopes will be graciously approv'd of by His Majesty.

Tho' the weather has hitherto hinder'd us, yet now it is chang'd, we hope it will prove a lasting fair Season, that we may proceed, to do the best, for the Success and honour of His Majesty's Arms, in the attempts we are order'd to make; And that our Endeavours, my Lord, where it is thought fit to employ us at this Time, and in the manner pointed out to us, may be to the satisfaction of our King and Countrey, is the sincerest wish, and the most fervent prayer, we can possibly make.

The Admiral thinks it proper to send Your Grace the Coppy of a Letter which he had occasion to write to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and as he has been oblig'd to man the Transports from the Squadron, that have lost their men by Death, Sickness, or Desertion, that otherwise cou'd not have proceeded with him to Sea: He hopes Your Grace, will take every part of his letter into Consideration, particularly the necessity he may be under of landing the Marines, whereby the Squadron will be Six hundred men short of Compliment, besides what it is now, by manning the Transports, and the Ships haveing never been completed to their full Complements, and under these Circumstances, and with the difficulties he may labour under, from the Season of the Year, and the Want of good Pilots, he beseeches Your Grace to intercede with His Majesty, for an order to the Lords of the Admiralty to send him as many Seamen, by the Ships of war, that are to convoy the Guards, and Majr. General Huske's Regimt. of Foot as May be necessary to prevent His Majestys Ships and Transports being expos'd in a hazardous Navigation, especially in stormy weather.

We have the Honour to be My Lord, etc.,

R. LESTOCK I. ST. CLAIR

P. S.

When we got under sail this morning the wind was N. W. by N and now it is W. by N. but as it looks like fair weather, we shall keep the Sea and endeavour to get ground if it is possible Monday.

10 o'Clock in the Morning

TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

A JOINT LETTER OF ADMLL. LESTOCK'S AND LIEUT. GENLL. ST. CLAIR'S TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE. DATED ON BOARD THE PRINCESSA AT SEA 21 OCTOBER, 1746. ABOUT 30 LEAGUES S. W. OFF USHANT:

MY LORD,

Our endeavours and application to carry the Kings Views into execution by a faithful discharge of our Duty, on Board and ashore, and the bad weather which happened to keep us from meeting at a seasonable time, together with not being

able to spare a Ship from the Squadron, have made it impossible to send to your Grace sooner, an account of our proceedings.

Sept. 18th After a favourable passage of three days, on the 18th of September in the evening, we made the Isle of Groa, within two leagues of Port Louis, where we were Joined by Commodore Cotes, who, having been dispatched before us, to reconnoitre and survey the Coast, had sounded it, and fixed on a proper place for landing the Troops about ten Miles from L'Orient.

Upon the discovery of our fleet, Alarm Guns were fired from the Isle of Groa, and next day, signal Guns were fired, Flags displayed, and during the night, Fires were lighted all along the Coast.

19th It was late in the evening before we fetched our Anchoring place, and the General could get on board the Princessa, to concert with the Admiral such a plan of operation, as might best answer the end of the Expedition, without improperly hazarding the Ships or Troops.

The Road in which we had Anchor'd as nearest to L'Orient, where Troops could possibly be landed either with safety or expedition, and have the requisite assistance given them, being open to the sea, between W. N. W. and South, by which Southerly and Westerly Winds must occasion a very great Sea, this, with the information given by Mr. Cotes, and all the Knowledge that we had been able to gather from the several accounts of our Pilots, and some prisoners that had been taken, left us no room to doubt, that it must be extremely dangerous for a Fleet to continue any time at Anchor in so open a Road, as that in which we were and must be acting contrary to the Kings Commands, signified to us, by your Grace and often repeated in our Instructions, by which the Admiral is expressly forbid to undertake any operation where the Navigation is so hazardous, as to expose the Ships and Transports

Under this Restriction, My Lord, in an open Road, and upon a dangerous Coast, greatly exposed to S. W. Winds where artillery stores, and Supplies of every Kind must be daily landed for the use of the Army, according to the Exigency of the service, and where this could not possibly be done, but in fair weather we durst not attempt an Enterprise, where the Issue of it was not expected to be short and precipitate.

Nevertheless our zeal to enter as far as we could into the Views of his Majesty, and the flattering hopes of the greatest advantages to the King, and his allies, from an attempt on L'Orient prevailed on us to determine to land the Troops with all possible expedition, to reconnoitre L'Orient, and if an Attempt could be made on it, with any probability of success, and a short time would determine the Issue, in the opinion of the Engineers, to pursue that great point, by a most punctual and vigilant execution, of what might best and soonest contribute to the speedy success of that Enterprize, But whether it was thought adviseable to attempt it or not, to preserve the communication between the Fleet and Army, and to prevent the total destruction of both, was above all to be considered, and therefore we resolved, that, as soon as possible the Army should March by the passes at Panteros and Henebon, about ten leagues to Quiberon Bay, where the Fleet could safely ride at Anchor, and be sheltered every way from all Winds and Stormy Weather, and where the Troops might carry the

Alarm into some other parts of the Province of Brittainy more particularly with so great a Reinforcement as that of two Battalions of Guards and a Regiment of Foot, or make such farther motions as should be thought most likely to alarm and annoy the French, and thereby procure a Diversion in Flanders, and when the wished for Flanders detachment drew near they might, from the advantageous situation of that Post, defend themselves against a great superiority or Reimbark with all imaginable safety ease and dispatch.

This, My Lord, being of the greatest importance for the preservation of the Squadron, Troops, and Transports, we were confin'd within this Plan; and it was agreed, that whatever Artillery were wanted to make the Attempt on L'Orient, if Horses could not be got to draw them thither, Seamen should do it, but upon the Armys Marching from thence into the Neighbourhood of Quiberon Bay, as it was dangerous to spare so great a number of Seamen from Navigating the Ships (besides the Marines which were Six Hundred) as were necessary for drawing the Iron Cannon so great a distance, as where the squadron was to come, in that case it was thought best to spike them or knock them of their Trunnions

Accordingly the proper measures for the Disembarkation were concerted, to facilitate which the Transports were ordered close in Shore, and his Majesty's Sloops, Bomb Vessel and Armed Tenders were ordered to go in next morning as near the Shore as possible to cover the landing; but on the 20th early in the morning there appear'd on the shore, about three Thousand Armed Militia and some Cavalry to oppose our disembarking, the Admiral thought proper to add three forty Gun ships with Commodore Cotes, to command the whole to what he had already order'd to cover the landing

Every thing being thus disposed, and the General observing that the Militia were Assembled behind the Beach, where they expected we were to Land, He made the Signal for the Boats to bear away to another Beach equally commodious, where he and two of the Brigadiers, with about Six hundred Men landed without opposition; He immediately detached a Subaltern and thirty Men of the Royal to take possession of two pieces of Brass Cannon which were placed on a point near our landing place, and which the Royal George Cutter by her fire drove the Enemy from, and then he pursued the flying Militia about two Miles into the Country; being there Joined by more of the Troops, which in the Interim had been Landed.

Brigadier Offarrel, with that whole Corps amounting to about a Thousand Men, was ordered to proceed, to the Village of Guidel, then in sight, there to remain till further orders.

The General returned to the Beach to Assemble the rest of the Troops as they came on shore.

The disembarkation was continued during the night and finished before day.

21st After leaving the Body of Marines to Guard the Field Artillery, which were to be landed by the Seamen, the General marched by break of day and join'd Brigadier O'ffarel at seven in the morning, who inform'd him that the Corps under his Command had been a good deal annoyed, the night before by parties of the Militia, sculking behind hedges and Thicketts; when Lieutenant Colonel Erskine and some few of the Men were wounded; and this could not be

prevented as the Roads were extremely narrow, and the Country one of the closest that can possibly be imagined.

Being informed by a lame Curate, the only person remaining in the Village, that about a League from thence, there were two Roads, leading to L'Orient; one by Ploemeur; and the other, the Shorter of the two by the great Road from Quimparley.

After leaving a detachment of Sixty Men at Guidel to keep that post, and to take care of the Sick and wounded, it was resolved to March in two Columns to L'Orient; Brigadier O'ffarel with the Battalions of Harrison, Frampton, and Richbell by the Shorter Road; the General with the Battalions of Royal, Bragg and Lord John Murray, by Ploemeur, where he arrived without opposition and proceeded about five in the evening, to a Windmill within Cannon shott of the Town

The Engineers were immediately sent to Reconnoitre the Place, and on their return they reported that the Town was only defended by a thin wall, with loopholes in it, and without a Fosse; and from the place they had pitched upon for a Battery, they could either make a Breach or lay the Town in Ashes in Twenty four hours.

Brigadier O'ffarel came up about seven at night, and acquainted the General that he had been attacked on his March by a Body, consisting partly of Militia and partly of Regular Troops; that on receiving their fire a part of the Regiments of Frampton and Richbell had fallen into disorder; Upwards of Twenty wounded Men returned to the Village of Guidel.

The Troops were this night Canton'd in the Neighbourhood and had orders to assemble next morning at the Windmill by Break of day.

Lieutenant Osborne with seventy Quarter Gunners, including a Gunners Mate from each Ship was sent ashore by the Admiral to put himself under the Command of the General for the service of the Field Artillery.

The Enemy having fired from a Battery of one Gun, which they had Erected on an Eminence to the westward of Quimparley River, in order to annoy the Transports and Boats going inshore, and about Five hundred Men appearing to be employed in Entrenching themselves behind a Craggy point, Contiguous to the River, the Boats of the Squadron with about one hundred and Sixty Armed Seamen, under the Command of Captain Masterson were sent to dislodge them.

They landed without opposition, Marched up the Clift, where only one man abreast could go, and turn'd the Gun which had been abandoned on their landing, against the Runaways, who appear'd in Considerable Bodies at a great distance.

After the Trunnions of the Gun were knock'd off, and it was with the Carriage thrown down the Clift, Captain Masterson went up the River Quimparley and burnt several Vessels, near to the Village of that name, and brought others down the River which were loaded with grain, and which afterwards were of great use for Reimbarking and Landing the Troops.

The Exeter, Pool, Tavistock Sloop and Royal George Cutter, were sent under the Command of Captain Lake, to Reconnoitre and Survey Quiberon

Bay, and to Cruize between the Cardinals and Bell Isle; an advantageous situation for intercepting the Enemy's Trade and gaining intelligence of their motions, and preventing any Embarkation of Troops going from the Island to the Main.

The York, Saphire, and Fly Sloop in like manner were sent under the Command of Captain Nucella, to cruize between the Glenans and the Isle of Groa; as well to look out for the expected Reinforcement of Foot Guards and Huske's Regiment of Foot, as for intercepting the Enemy's Trade; particularly that, bound to Port Louis, and getting all possible information with respect to the Enemy's motions by Sea, or any measures they might possibly be taking to disconcert our Attempt on L'Orient.

22 This morning the Troops being Assembled, the General, accompanied by Mr. Armstrong the Director General, and Captain Watson the Engineer, went to Reconnoitre the Place, and in consequence of the Assurances given him the Night before, and now repeated, he sent a Letter by an Officer to summon the Town to Surrender.

After this, the General set out for the Fleet with Brigadier O'ffarrel, the Director General, and Engineer Watson, and finding Captain Chalmers on the Beach, he carried him on board the Admiral, where a Council of War was held, Consisting of the Admiral, General, Commodore Cotes and Brigadier O'ffarel.

The Engineers and Captain of the Artillery being called in, were Interrogated by the Council what was their opinion of the strength of the Town.

The Director General Armstrong and Captain Watson, Answer'd, That it was a place of no strength, having only for its defence, a thin Upright Wall, with Loopholes in it, without a Fosse.

Being asked, if they thought it practicable either to Burn the Town or make a Breach in the Wall and what Artillery would be wanted, and what time required to perform these Services.

Their Answer, was, That with two Twelve pounders and a Ten inch Mortar, planted on the spot they had pitched on, for Erecting a Battery, they engaged, either to make a proper breach in the Wall or with Carcasses, Bombs, and Red hot Balls, destroy the Town, by laying it in Ashes in Twenty four hours.

Captain Chalmers, the Captain of the Artillery who had not then seen the Town, was of the same opinion, provided the Battery was within the proper distance.

Upon this the Council of War unanimously agreed the Attempt should be made; and Commodore Cotes was ordered by the Admiral, to land the Artillery and every thing demanded by the Engineers with all possible Expedition, in order to their being drawn to the Camp next day by Seamen.

After giving Directions to Colonel Holmes to leave an Hundred Marines as a Guard on the Beach, and to proceed with the rest of that Corps, and three, Three pounders, to the Army; the General return'd with Brigadier O'ffarel, and the Engineers to Ploemur; where he learned from the Officer, return'd from L'Orient, that Deputies from the Town would meet him next morning at the Windmill.

A Lieutenant from each Ship in the Squadron with a number of men were employ'd during the Night on Board the Ordnance Transports, to come at the Cannon Mortar, and Stores, required by the Engineers, and at Break of day above Two hundred fresh men with proper Officers under the direction of the Commodore, were employ'd in Landing the Cannon and Stores, and getting them up an Hill in readiness for their being drawn to the Camp by a greater number of Seamen which had been ordered for that purpose.

23d This day the Fauxbourgs of the Town were burnt by the Garrison.

Early in the morning, Information, being brought that the Post at Guidel was Attacked, Three Companies of Grenadiers were detach'd to relieve them, and to carry the Party with the Sick and wounded to the Seashore. That Post being no longer necessary to keep open our communication with the Fleet.

Three Deputies of whom one from the Governour, one from the Town, and one from the East India Company were brought at the hour appointed, to the General, who receiv'd them at the head of the Army, as they represented that each was sent to treat of particular Conditions with regard to their own Corps, The General made answer, that he could have no Transaction with any but the Officer Commanding in the place for his most Christian Majesty, and would therefore, only receive the Paper presented by the Military Deputy, of which the following is the copy.

Articles proposés de la part des troupes de sa Majesté tres Chretienne actuellement à l'Orient tant troupes réglées que Troupes Gardes Cotes et Milices Bourgeoises.

1. Il sera accordé aux dittes troupes la liberté de se Retirer ou bon leur semblera par le chemin qui leur sera le plus convenable. Et à cet effet, il leur sera delivré des passeports de seureté pour la durée quatre Jours en cas de recontre de Troupes de sa Majesté Britannique.

2. Les Troupes sortiront de la Ville de L'Orient, avec Armes, Chevaux, Baggages, Tambours battans, Drapeaux Etandarts deployez, Meche Allumée, et tous les Honneurs de la Guerre, avec des Chariots si elles en ont besoin.

3. A l'égard des Troupes Gardes-Cotes, et Milices Bourgeoises, il leur sera également accordé de se retirer dans leur Villes, et Parroisses, Campagnes ou en fin ou bon leur semblera avec la meme seureté.

The General finding these terms unreasonable and still depending on the Assurances, given him by the Engineers, gave for answer, that he would Accept of no other Terms, but surrendering the Town, to the discretion of The King of great Brittain, his Master; The Deputy complain'd the Terms were so hard, that he had no power to agree to them, but would acquaint the Governour, and return him an answer that night.

The General would allow but three hours; at the expiration of which, came another Military Deputy, to acquaint the General, that the Terms were found so hard, that he could not agree to them, and ask'd if no abatement could be made? The General reply'd they were to expect none but what he had already offer'd, upon which the Deputy return'd to the Town.

The Regiments were order'd back to their former Cantonments; The Piquets only order'd to Encamp at the Windmill. In order to hasten up the two Twelve

pounders and the Mortar, with the Tools necessary for cutting Fascines and breaking Ground, the General went in the evening to the Sea Shore; and to prevent any disappointment He sent an Aid-de-Camp to the Admiral to beg he would give Directions to land other two Twelve Pounders that night, and forward them as soon as possible to the Camp with the Stores and Ammunition contain'd in a List, which the Director General had sent to the Commissary of the Train.

In Consequence of the above message from the General, a Lieutenant from each Ship in the Squadron with a proper number of Seamen were Employed, during the Night to come at the Cannon, with the Stores and Ammunition, demanded, from on board the Ordnance Transports, and to gett them into the Boats, for their being carried ashore.

They were landed early in the morning, and got up the Hill with great dispatch by another party of Seamen, under the Command of Captain Pritchard. After which Captain Upton with a fresh party of Seamen, was order'd to draw them to the Camp, Even before any of the former party of Seamen had return'd from drawing the first Cannon thither: In which case, each Ship in the Road had absent from her, above one third of her Seamen, besides her Marines, and Boats Crews, which were continually employ'd on the like service.

24th Early this morning, the General marched with all the Troops towards the Town, and gave them their Ground for Encamping.

Three hundred Sailors with several officers under the Command of Captain Knight, brought up to the Camp the two Twelve Pounders, and Ten Inch Mortar with the Tools for breaking of Ground, making Fascines &c. demanded by the Engineers. There were left a Sea Lieutenant and Seventy Men, to place the Guns on the Battery and to assist in working them.

About nine in the morning a Considerable Body of Troops, with Colours, supposed to have been Transported from Port Louis, were seen moving towards the Sea Coast, in order, as was suppos'd to cut off our Communication with the Fleet; To prevent any accidents of this kind, Brigadier O'ffarel was detach'd with two Battalions and two Companies of Grenadiers.

The number of men required by the Director General to make Fascines and Piquets for Erecting the Battery were appointed.

As soon as it was dark, the Covering Party and workmen were Conducted to their Posts by the Engineer's and the Regiments by their Majors to night Posts; where they might be able to support the covering party in case of a Sally.

The Battery was Completed before morning; and the Mortar, and the two twelve Pounders were placed on it by the Sailors.

25 This morning a few Carcasses and Bombs were thrown into the Town, but no Cannon were fired, the Commanders of the Artillery having forgot to order the Grate, for heating the Ball, to be brought up; and the Engineers now despaired of being able to make a Breach at the Distance at which they had placed the Battery; Atho the officers of the Artillery insisted they could heat the Balls without a Furnace, the General oppos'd their beginning to fire having then Discovered that thro' the neglect of the Commander of the Artillery, or some of his Subordinate Officers, there was not a Quantity of Ammunition sufficient to keep a Continued Fire.

This forenoon the other two Twelve Pounders, and the Furnace were brought to the Camp, by one hundred and Fifty sailors with proper Officers, under the Command of Captain Upton, and a Body of the Marines.

A Number of Fascines were order'd to be made by each Battalion, for a Trench to be extended to the Right and Left of the Battery, as a Cover for the Men appointed for its protection.

Three hundred Workmen were order'd as the Number demanded by the Director General, for that Service, and a proper detachment was order'd to Cover them.

At Five in the evening, it was found necessary to Call a Council of War, the proceedings of which are as follows.

At a Council of War held at the Camp before L'Orient, the
Twenty fifth day of September 1746.

Present

Lieut. General St. Clair.

Brigadier O'ffarel Brigadier Grahame

Brigadier Richbell

Engineers

Thomas Armstrong Chief Engineer and Commander of the Artillery.

Justly Watson John Armstrong

John Chalmers Captain of the Artillery

Mr. Thomas Armstrong and Captain Chalmers with the Engineers Justly Watson and John Armstrong, came in a Body to Lieut. General St. Clair about five in the evening and made such a Report of the situation of their Affairs as determined him immediately to call this Council of War.

Mr. Thomas Armstrong represented to the Council that Stores and Ammunition came in slowly, that he does not see any Probability of our being suppli'd with ammunition so expeditiously as may be necessary for making a proper use of the Battery, made last night and open'd this morning; and being apprehensive, that the service intended cannot be accomplished so soon as was at first expected, there being but Thirty four Rounds for each of the four pieces of Cannon, and none of the Shells and Carcasses for the Ten Inch Mortar left; and Considering the Number of Batteries open'd upon them and are likely to be open'd on them, he thought it his duty to represent this to Lieut.' General St Clair, as he now does to the Council of War.

John Armstrong being extremely afflicted with the Gout, was not in a Condition to undergo the fatigue of reconnoitring at the time the Director General and Engineer Watson did, and for that reason his opinion was not taken in the Council of War held on board the Admiral, but being ask'd his opinion at this Council, he said, that there being no Horses proper to draw our Artillery from the landing Place, and the Roads being so broken and spoilt by the Rains; that the getting the heavy Guns up in time, is scarcely possible, without mentioning the advantages the Enemy has of drawing continual supplies from the neighbouring Garrison of Port Louis, so as to be able to mount Six Guns for our one, he is of opinion that nothing of consequence, can, at this Season, and in our Circumstances be done against the Town of L'Orient in a proper time.

As both the working men and Covering Party, were order'd to parade at that hour; and as the proceedings of the Council were likely to take up time, the General thought proper to adjourn the Council till seven o'clock next morning, since the keeping the detachment under Arms, or altering any part of the disposition that had been order'd, might give a suspicion to the Troops, which was to be avoided, as much as possible, as it might be attended with very bad consequences.

26th At seven o'clock in the morning the Council being again Assembled, Captain Justly Watson's Sentiments were ask'd, and he said his former opinion was, that with a Ten Inch Mortar and two Twelve Pounders, he should have been able to have lay'd the Town in Ashes in a short time; and being ask'd what that time was, he said Twenty four hours; his present opinion being demanded, he said, that if the Battery could be properly served with Ammunition for the above time of Twenty four hours he thought the Enterprize was still practicable.

The Director General being ask'd what his opinion was in the Council of War on board the Admiral, acknowledg'd that he then said that with two Twelve Pounders, a Ten Inch Mortar, and some Royals, the Town might be destroy'd in Twenty four hours. Being ask'd by Council what his present opinion was, he said, that from the difficulties and delays in bringing up Ammunition, the Alteration of the weather, and other circumstances in favour of the Enemy, and to our prejudice, he is of opinion, that no great advantage will arise by continuing to push on, much longer, this undertaking.

Being ask'd by General St. Clair, if at any time he had been refused whatever number of Armed Men, or Men unarmed to work, he had demanded, he answered, he never had; Being ask'd if he had ever applied to the General for bringing up the Royals, he said, he never directly did apply; being farther ask'd, if he ever mentioned the Royals in any of the Lists he sent to the Commissary of the Train at the Park of Artillery on the Sea side, he said he never did, as there were other things more immediately wanted.

Captain Chalmers of the Artillery being at this time obliged to attend at the Battery; his Opinion was not taken at the Council of War.

Brigadier Richbell being ask'd if he thought it adviseable to continue the Siege of L'Orient, says, that, he is against it and gives the following Reasons. It appears to him, by the opinion of the Engineers, that they had from the first made a wrong calculation; that from the great fatigues the Troops had suffer'd from the badness of the Weather, the great Sickness among the Men, which daily increases, and the uncertainty of being supplied with proper provisions, he is apprehensive, that in case the Siege should be carried on, it may be attended with fatal Consequences to the Troops.

Brigadier Grahame, being Ask'd his opinion with regard to carrying on the Siege, says, that from the reasons the three Engineers have already given; from the small number of Troops we have here, the great fatigue they have suffer'd by Duty, and the badness of the Weather, the great sickness which daily increases, and as many other necessary's must soon be wanted, he is of Opinion, that the Troops should be Reimbark'd.

Brigadier O'ffarel being ask'd his opinion, says that as the Principal motive

to encourage the undertaking of the Enterprize, was founded on the short time in which the Engineers propos'd to put it in execution, in which he finds we are disappointed; the Sickness among the Troops, and that much increasing by great fatigue, the heavy Rains, night duties, and the want of necessaries, the increase of the Enemy's Artillery; and as our communication with the Fleet may be intercepted he thinks it reasonable after having expended all the Ammunition for the heavy Artillery, to desist from the Enterprize and Reimbark the Troops.

This Evening Capt'n Bagshan Major of Brigade lost his leg, by a Cannon Ball.

The Covering Party and Workmen were Conducted to their Posts by the Brigadier of the day and the Engineers.

The Sea Lieutenant and the Sailors Placed the other two Twelve Pounders this Night on the Battery.

The General was informed very early in the morning that the greatest part of the Workmen had remain'd unemploy'd during the night and that no Trench had been made.

The Sick were order'd from Ploemeur to the Fleet.

The General reconnoitred the Ground and Roads towards the Sea Coast this forenoon. About an hour after his return to the Camp, it was found necessary to call a second Council of War. The Proceedings are as follows.

At a Council of War held at the Camp before L'Orient the
Twenty sixth day of September 1746.

Present.

Lieut. General St. Clair

Brigadier O'ffarel— Brigadier Grahame.

Brigadier Richbell.

The Director General Armstrong and Captain Chalmers of the Artillery having informed the General at three o'clock this evening that there were no Carcasses or Bombs left, and that there were only One hundred and fifty shott remaining, which were not sufficient to serve the Battery that night, and next day, he therefore thought it proper immediately to call this Council of War.

Captain Chalmers being ask'd if he was of opinion, that the Artillery on the Battery with the remaining Quantity of Stores, and Ammunition was sufficient either to make a Breach in the Wall or to sett fire to the Town? he said, he was positive they could not make a breach in the Wall, at the distance the Battery was placed, considering its Oblique situation, and was of opinion they could not sett fire to the Town, as the Houses he had seen in this Country had very little wood in them, and he had likewise observed, that the Carcasses, Bombs, and Red hot Balls which had been fired into the Town had little or no effect, he farther added that he was able to serve only one of the Guns with Red Hot Balls.

Director General Armstrongs opinion being ask'd he declined making any answer.

The Brigadiers being ask'd what was proper to be done on this representation, were unanimously of Opinion, that, since, neither a Breach could be made, nor the Town burnt, the Troops should be immediately drawn off in order to be Reimbarked; the remaining part of the Ammunition fired away the Four Twelve Pounders on the Battery Spiked up, since the Captain of the Artillery declared

that their Trunnions could not be knock'd off, It was then resolved to carry off the Mortar by means of the sailors, in case it could be placed on its travelling Carriage.

In Consequence of which Captain Chalmers and the Sea Lieutenant being called in were directed to take the proper method of replacing it on that Carriage.

That no hint or proposition might be lost whereby it was possible that anything could be started to Contribute towards the taking the best and wisest Resolution, the General upon the Representation being made by Captain Chalmers, thought likewise proper to ask the Opinion of the Commanding Officers of the six Battalions in Camp. The substance of which was much the same with that given by the General officers, and given unanimously by them, for the following and other reasons.

(1) That our Battery consisting of four Twelve Pounders and a Ten Inch Mortar, had Play'd on the Town with very little success, most of the shells either falling short or bursting in the Air; by which there appear'd no probability of either Burning the Town or the Magazines of the India Company.

(2) That the Distance from the Sea Shore where the Fleet lies, to the Camp, being at least three Leagues, and the Roads having become very bad from the two days continued Rain, we look upon it to be next to Impracticable to bring up any more Ammunition or Stores to the Camp, as the only way of drawing them had hitherto been by Men.

(3) That the Inclemency of the Weather, together with the necessary hard Duty, has brought such a sickness among the Men, that their number for Duty hourly decreas'd.

From this concurrence in Judgment, gather'd from the Councils of War, held in consequence of his Majestys Instructions.

Your Grace will easily perceive, that with respect to the difficulty of the Enterprize the whole resulted from the Ignorance of those who have nothing of the Engineers but the name and the Pay, but however Strong and Cogent, the Reasons of the General Officers, and Commanding Officers, of the Regiments might be to their Commander (who was Instructed not to hazard the Kings Troops improperly) for abandoning an Attempt which they thought must inevitably prove fruitless, Yet, My Lord there were many other concurring Circumstances which prevail'd on the General to Yield to the Reinbarking of the Troops; By our want of proper Guides, It appeared we were led out of the direct Road to L'Orient, in pursuit of the Militia and Peasants who retired before us into the Country, which gave the Enemy a days time more to prepare for our Reception.

The Town being situated at the distance of Ten Miles from the Place, where we disembarked, we must have continued the Posts we had Established to preserve the Communication with our Fleet, from whence all our Artillery, Stores &c must be brought, and the Detachments for those Posts, and the Parties necessary to Escort our supplies from the Coast; made a considerable diminution in our little Army, and consequently increas'd their Fatigue, tho, My Lord, the General put them on no Fatigue without showing them an Example of undergoing it himself.

While we remained before the Town a heavy Rain had fallen; our Men who

had long been excessively hot on Shipboard, without Exercise; on the first landing, were growing sickly. They were reduced to about three Thousand.

The Enemy had got seven Batteries erected against our one

From our Deserters they had learnt our numbers which they apprehended at first to be much greater than they really were. And tho' we look upon all Militia as despicable, Yet they had such numerous Supplies of them from the Country, and Sailors from the Harbours, and the Neighbouring Garrison of Port Louis, that they and the Regular Troops in the place made it impossible to attempt an Escalade of a Wall forty foot high, without the certain and total destruction of the forces.

And had we been able to force open one of the Gates by Cannon, it would then have been extremely difficult, to storm the Town, as the Enemy had dug a very deep Pit exactly behind each of them, and had made an Entrenchment and placed Chevaux de Frise behind it.

By a Negro Trumpeter, the only deserter that came to us, we learn'd that the regular Forces, who were before in the Town, and who had gone into it from the neighbouring Villages upon our approach were

Four Troops of Horse.....at 41 pr. Troop.....	164
Eight Troops of Dragoons.....at 37 pr. Troop.....	296
Two Companys of Invalid Serpts. at 35 Each.....	70
Two Companys of Invalids at 50 Each.....	100
Two Do. of the East India Compy. at 55.....	110

740

To these motives for Reimbarking, my Lord, it must be added, That tho' the Admiral resolved to remain at Anchor with the Fleet, where it was, 'till the Issue of the Enterprize was determined, or the Army marched round by Land to Quiberon Bay, agreeable to our Plan of operation, at our first setting out, in order to meet the Fleet there, and to lay the Country under Contributions and Annoy the Enemy in the best manner we were able, to procure a Diversion in Flanders by carrying the Alarm farther into the Country, and thereby answering the End of the Expedition, yet that Scheme was frustrated by the Enemys breaking down the Bridges over the Rivers particularly those at Paneros and Henebon.

In this situation then, when the preservation of His Majesty's Ships and Transports, seem'd particularly at Stake, together with the Reimbarking the Troops without loss and drawing the Admiral into a misfortune, who had so well supported this Expedition by not only granting readily, all that was asked, but more then the Army could expect, or think of requesting, What was there left for the General to do? He could no longer resist, My Lord, the general voice and continue hazarding the Kings Troops, by losing so much time in the vain pursuit of a hopeless undertaking.

This account of our proceedings would have been more succinct, had we been more fortunate, but by the relation of so many minute circumstances, Your Grace, will the more clearly discern that this disappointment, after so flattering an Aspect, is in no degree to be imputed to any part of our Conduct, but to

the Ignorance and presumption of those, who have thrust themselves into the employment of Engineers.

Had not the Members of the Council of War held on board the *Princessa* been deceived by their positive Assurances, the Attempt would never have been made, or at least must have been made in some other manner less unlikely to succeed; but as the General had never made that branch of Military business his particular study he was necessitated to repose Confidence in those who were assigned him for Guides in that Science.

And tho' our being reduced to abandon the undertaking, is still render'd the more mortifying, as the Town offer'd to Capitulate, Yet, as it was the Sentiments of the Council of War, held on board the *Princessa*, upon the opinion and asseverations of the Engineers, and Captain of the Artillery, that the Town was no ways Tenable, not to accept of the Surrender of it, but at discretion, the General apprehended, that the first terms demanded were so unreasonable, as by no means to be allowed, whilst there remain'd the smallest hopes of obliging them to accept of lower Conditions; particularly the Terms which were said to be demanded in behalf of their East India Company, which were that they should be allow'd to enjoy every thing they had, and to continue their Trade as if the Town was not in our possession.

In the afternoon orders were giving for the covering Party, and out Posts to join their respective Regiments in the evening; Before Eight the Troops were under Arms, and the General waited at the head of the Grenadiers, who compos'd the Rear Guard till the out Posts had Join'd their respective Corps; the Guns were spiked, and as thro' a misunderstanding with regard to the time appointed for trying to place the Mortar on the Travelling Carriage, the attempt was not made, it was likewise spiked up, tho' had the attempt been made as was intended, their Endeavours must have proved ineffectual as they had no Gin nor any other Instrument proper for raising so great a weight.

In this day and yesterdays Firing there were Thirty Carcasses, thirty Shells, thirty two Grapes, and three hundred and forty Shot, thrown into the Town. Of the Shot, one fourth was only Red hot, as by the neglect of the people of the Artillery the bellows had been forgot.

The General took Post this night with the Grenadiers.

27th About three in the morning the Troops got to the Sea Shore; the Sloops and Armed Tenders moved in Shore as near as Possible, to Cover the Reimbarkation, to facilitate which, and to secure it with all possible dispatch in case of Blowing Weather, the *Superb*, *Hastings*, *Saphire*, and *Ruby*, moved likewise in Shore as near the Reimbarkation place as possible in order to receive the Troops. the Marines with the Battalions of *Frampton* and *Richbell* were Embarked.

28th Early in the morning the Artillery was put on board, and the weather being extremely moderate the Reimbarkation of all the Troops was compleated before five in the evening, and the Boats of the Fleet dureing the night were employ'd in Transferring the Troops to their proper Transports.

29th It blew so hard about S.Wt. with a great Sea Tumbling in, that it was dangerous for a Boat to pass from Ship to Ship.

30th A Council of War was held on board the *Princessa*, consisting of the four eldest of the Sea, and four eldest of the Land Officers, in which it was

debated, whether the Army should undertake any farther operations, either Singly or in Conjunction with the Fleet; and particularly if the Fleet should not proceed to the Bay of Quiberon, and it was voted by the Brigadiers, Commodore, and Captains that the Squadron should immediately return to Spithead, and the Troops sail to Ireland under a proper Convoy agreeable to our Instructions, after the Expedition was over; on account of the representation of the Commodore and Captains with regard to the danger the Fleet might run by continuing any longer in the Bay of Biscay.

October 1st The Opinion of these Gentlemen against going to Quiberon Bay being founded on suppositions without proof and Conclusions not justly drawn Vizt.

That there might be Batterys in the Isthmus of Lomaria and the opposite side on the Main, which would annoy us as we lay at Anchor; That the Enemy might gather together under Bell Isle, from Brest, Rochford, and other parts in the Bay, a Force by Sea sufficient to defeat our Squadron; That the Fleet must lie at Anchor in this Bay with the Winds from W. N. W to S. E. and that if a Superior Force came against us we must infallibly lose both Fleet and Army, as it would be impossible for any Ship to escape, out of so narrow a Channell. It was incumbent on us to reject such crude conceptions, and to continue to pursue with a chearful and dutiful obedience, the methods we thought Conducive towards answering the Kings Intentions of sending us upon the Expedition. We remembr'd we had been told by Your Grace that the only view and design of it was to procure if possible a Diversion in Flanders, which was of the utmost consequence in the then present Conjuncture; and that even an alarm, or at least any landing must necessarily have a good Effect.

And tho' by landing the Troops and making the Attempt they did on L'Orient we were disappointed in establishing ourselves there, yet we were sure that we had so far effectually answer'd the End of the Expedition as to create a great Alarm by the Descent we had made, and indeed from all we were able to learn, the French Court had order'd a considerable Force from Flanders to oppose us. Least therefore that this Alarm should cease, or the Detachment order'd from Flanders to oppose us should be Countermanded, on Drawing off the Troops from before L'Orient their speedy Reimbarkation, and the sudden disappearance of the Squadron and Transports from off the Western Coast of France. We apprehended under these circumstances, notwithstanding the opinion of the Council of War, that our continuing on the Coast was practicable for answering the End of this Expedition, And as the Admiral had received by Lieutenant Oarry who had been sent in the Post Boy Tender to Guernsey to procure Pilots, a letter from Captain Wickham Commanding Officer of the Convoy to the Guards &c. acquainting him that they arrived at Plymouth the 21st of September; We agreed immediately to go to Quiberon Bay where the Fleet might lay with safety, and to Land the Troops on the Peninsula of that name; and there wait the coming of the Guards and Major General Huske's Regiment of Foot, in order to undertake on the Arrival of that Reinforcement any operations that might be thought adviseable. And the Fleet accordingly got under Sail the 1st of October.

The Admiral having receiv'd intelligence by the Royal George Cutter that a

French Ship of War lay in Palais Road Belle Isle, the Commodore, with the Hastings, Ruby and Vulcan Fire Ship was dispatched in quest of her, and in case of meeting with her, he was directed to take or Burn her, by all possible means in his power; But before he got to Belle Isle Captain Lake of the Exeter, Cruizing on that Station, had performed this Service the account of which he gave to the Admiral in the following letter.

SIR.

Yesterday morning being off the S. Wt. End of Belle Isle, Captain Mackenzie of the Tavistock Sloop, having made the Signal to speak with me, acquainted me that there was a large Ship at Anchor under the N. Wt. part of the Island, preparing to get under Sail, upon which we immediately Tack'd and (with the Tavistock) stood in for her, and open'd the point of Lamaria; very soon afterwards, saw her under sail standing to the N. Wt. the Wind being then at W. S. Wt. with all the Sail she could crowd, as we had likewise. at Nine she Tack'd to the Southward to get, as we suppos'd under the Cannon of Palais; But the Wind shifting to the S. Wt, it brought her under our Lee, as we still Kept the Wind with the Larboard Tacks on board, which she perceiving, wore round, Sett her Stud-ding Sails, and hoisted a white pendant and having a Waft with her Ensign abroad, she fired several Guns

We gave Chase, and came up with her very fast, on seeing which, at Ten, she ran in and came to an Anchor, close to the Shore in a little Sandy Bay surrounded with Rocks at the S. Wt. end of Quiberon, where there were about Eight Guns round her at several places on the Shore, which as well as the Ship that had Two Tier of Guns, was very lofty, and in her Stern appear'd not unlike the Princessa, having brought her Broadside, to Bear, Begun to fire Briskly at us, while we were preparing to Anchor along side of her.

Half an hour past Eleven, having furled our Sails and dropt down pretty near her, we Began to return the Salute, and at Noon came to an anchor as near her as we could venture with safety to the Ship and fired away apace upon her, and I order'd the Tavistock to ply a Battery of two Guns ahead of her.

Half an hour past noon Captain Baird of the Fly Sloop, came on board us, (she being the Chace the Pool was sent after) and the Pool being come back with him, I sent Captain Baird with Directions to Captain Thomson to Anchor about four or five Cables length ahead of us, in order to heave our Ship off when our Business was done, for we were within a Cables length of dry Rocks, and Breakers both a Stern of us and without us.

Soon after the Pool Anchored, and began to fire at the Enemys Ship and Batterys; and I order'd the Fly to ply another small Battery which Raked us from the Stern.

Half an hour past three, the Enemys Ship went on Shore head foremost (we having as I suppose shot her Cable) and could bring only a few Guns to bear upon us besides her Stern chace; At four, her foremast and Mizen Mast, went both overboard on the Starboard side together, and gave the Ship a pretty large list that way tho' she continued firing what Guns she could till near seven, after which no more Guns were fired on either side

This morning we saw her in a very shatter'd Condition, her Stern being almost dry, and shot holes in abundance in her, her Rudder shot away, and her Starboard Gunnel under water, and no Body to be seen stirring on Board her.

As it blew very fresh at W. S. Wt. which was right on upon the Shore all night, I could not send to Burn her, as I intended to do the sea running in so high, that with all the Boats of the other Ships to assist my own, we could not tow a Longboat ahead, but the Wind shifting to the N. N. Wt. at day light, by seven o'clock, we hove up and Stowed the small Bower, (for we were obliged to lye all the night with both a head being so near the Breakers) and cut our best Bower Cable after heaving tought on a spring we had Clapt upon it; and cast just clear to weather the Breakers; the other Ships of ours getting under Sail soon after us.

We had only two men wounded, tho' several great shott as well as Barrs and broken pieces of Iron came into us, But they shott our Foretopsail almost full of holes, and shot away all our Larboard Maintopmast Shrouds and Backstays, and some of the Runing Rigging, and Dismounted the second Gun on the Larboard side on the Gun Deck, which with the loss of our Barge, Best Bower and Stream Anchor and Cable and three Hawsers (which we were obliged to leave behind us) is all the loss we Sustain'd, excepting some little damage between Wind and Water, under the Ships Counter.

About Ten we join'd Commodore Cotes, and Received his orders to make all the Sail I could to lead the Fleet into Quiberon Bay, where he told me you was coming, and soon afterwards we saw you Coming round Belle Isle, and stood in ourselves as near the Rocks, without the Cardinals as I thought it safe for any Ship to Venture. I am Sir,

Yours &ca. THOMAS LAKE.

2d October The Fleet anchor'd in Quiberon Bay; Four of our Transports which had between Eight and Nine Hundred men of Harrisons and Richbells Regiment on board together with a Store Ship being missing, the Hastings and Tavistock Sloop were sent in search of them.

3d The Fleet got under Sail and having got up against the Peninsula of Quiberon it Anchored.

We found this to be a spacious and commodious Bay, good anchorage and Regular Soundings all over it. Shelter'd every way from the Wind and Sea; capable of containing the Royal Navy, where Five hundred Sail may Ride; Land Locked all round from the Sea; It is of so great an Extent, that it is impossible to fortifye it in such a manner as to hinder a Fleet at all times having recourse to so good a Sanctuary.

The situation with regard to annoying and alarming the French, is the finest in the world; it is in the Centre betwixt Brest and Bourdeaux, and it is Contiguous to the Harbours of Port Louis, L'Orient, Croxie, Nantz, Rochfort, Rochelle, and many trading Towns; and nothing can contribute more to the Destruction of the French trade, and our prosperity than a Squadron being Station'd there, for generally every Ship bound to any Port in the Bay of Biscay, makes Belle Isle; so that by a well judged disposition of Cruizers to relieve one another, while larger Ships lay in this excellent Bay, great advantages might be reaped, and the designs

and Views of the Enemy frustrated, by Blocking up their Harbours and observing all their Motions. During the time the Fleet lay here, Cruizers were Kept out to line the shore from the Penmarks to the Cardinals.

4th The Admirals Captain was sent on shore early in the morning to summon the Peninsula of Quiberon. The General Officer who Commanded there Insisted upon having Terms allowed him; he was told he could have no other than surrendering at Discretion; upon which he reply'd he had Men sufficient to resist our Force and would defend the Place to the last Man.

The small men of War and Armed Tenders having Mov'd close in shore to cover the Disembarking; The General Landed on the Peninsula of Quiberon, and took possession of it without opposition. He Detach'd immediately Lieut. Colonel Munro with One Hundred and fifty of the Highland Regiment to take Post upon a Rising Ground which Commands the Isthmus, in order to prevent any of the Inhabitants from retireing with their cattle; and Marched himself with a Body of the Royal, and of the Highlanders and took Possession of a small Fort; and all the Cannon of the Peninsula amounting to Eighteen Pieces.

He drove away with small arms a Boat from the French Ship of War, that had been forced on shore by the Exeter, and sent an Aid-de-Camp on board of her, to prevent anything being meddled with, till proper persons should be sent by the Admiral to take Charge of her.

In the Evening after reconnoitreing the Isthmus, he Posted a Guard upon the Rising Ground, Cantoned the Troops in such a manner as to be able to Sustain the Post, and order'd Roads of Communication to be made. Eighty seven sick Sailors of the French Ships were found in a Village.

Captain Lake with the Armed Tenders were sent round to Examine the Condition of the French Ship of War, which proved to be one of the Duke D'Anvilles Squadron, the L'Ardent a fine new man of War of Sixty four Guns, and Seven hundred men, very near as large as the Princessa, Commanded by Monsieur Colombe Commissary General of the Artillery.

From the Journals that were found, and the Examination of several of the Prisoners the following Account was gather'd.

She Sailed from the Isle of Dieu the 22d of June in Company with the Duke D'Anville and Six Sail more of the Line, with a few Frigates and about Eighty Sail of Trade; Two more Ships of the Line and a Forty Gun Ship Joined them From Toulon soon after they Sailed; which three Ships were afterwards dispatch'd some where with a great part of the Trade.

Eleven Ships of the Convoy were loaded with Stores and Ammunition, Nine of which were sent to Quebec; and on the 19th of July a Man of War to St. Mary's

They continued at Sea without Knowing where they were bound, near three Months, in which time they took two of our Ships bound from Jamaica, and Monsieur Colombe had often been on board of Duke D'Anville to ask him where they were bound, but he would not tell him; their design in keeping so long at Sea, proceeded from the hopes of meeting with our Transports and Store Ships with the Convoy of Men of War, as first design'd under the Command of Commo-dore Cotes

About Twenty Leagues from Cape Sable the Squadron was dispersed by a

Gale of Wind, being before in great distress by sickness and bad Weather, inso-much that they must be necessitated to Run to the Leeward Islands to Shelter there, for their Recovery and Refitting, or Return home.

The L'Ardent having buried One Hundred and Ten men, and having not above Twenty Men in a Watch (were touched with the Scurvy, which was the Raging Distemper among them) Bore away in this sad Condition for Brest, and in her Passage took one of our Ships from Virginia full of fresh provisions.

After being near four Months at Sea, she arrived at Palais Road Belle Isle where she took men on board the day before she met her fate.

This night she was set on fire by the people belonging to the Post Boy Tender, and by all Circumstances it was done on purpose, and by the contrivance of the Master, because he was order'd to leave her, and could no longer Employ his Tenders Crew in plundering her. She burnt down to the Waters Edge; and this Wicked Act is the more Chagreening as there was a probability of getting her off again; for it was not certain whether she was Bilged or not; At least all her Stores might have been sav'd, which according to an Account found of them could not be of less Value then Fifteen thousand Pounds. Prize Sloops with men under the Command of Captain Upton, were sent to Weigh her Guns, Eighteen of which, Twelve twelve pounders and Six twenty four Pounders, of Brass were got up, and put on board the Princessa, and the Trunnions of the Rest of her Guns which were New, were Knock'd off and rendered unserviceable.

5th Orders were given to Mr. Armstrong to Erect a Battery with Eight Pieces of Cannon found on the Peninsula, and make an Entrenchment at the Head of the Isthmus

The Marines were Landed and Employed in drawing Ammunition and Artillery to the Battery.

The General wrote a letter to the Governour of Port Louis, desireing him to send a Commissary to grant a Receipt for the Sailors as Prisoners of War.

Captain Baird of His Majestys Sloop the Fly, was sent by the Admiral to Reconnoitre St. Gildas in consequence of a Message he had received from the General

And this day the Picquets Commanded by a Field Officer were Posted at the Isthmus in place of the Advanced Guards.

6th Captain Baird returned and on his report, the Admiral and General sent Brigadier Grahame to reconnoitre St. Gildas.

The Battery was raised, the Entrenchment Completed and a Redoubt Erected where the Picquet of a Regiment took Post.

An Encampment was marked and the Tents pitched but the Troops were permitted to remain in the Village in the Rear of the Camp to prevent as much as possible the increase of the Sickness among them.

7th A Commissary arrived from Port Louis and Eighty one of the Sailors were sent off in Boats a Receipt for them being granted.

A Council of War was held in consequence of Brigadier Grahames report, wherein it was unanimously agreed to lay aside the project of St. Gildas.

And the Men of War which were sent to look for the four Transports which had been separated from the Fleet, being returned without being able to find them,

and there remaining no hopes of being Joined by the Troops under Major General Fullers Command, the Wind having continued fair from England for a considerable time it was unanimously voted to Reimbark the Troops as their numbers were too small to enter upon any new undertaking

The French Commissary was dispatched. A letter was wrote to the Governour of Fort Louis desiring him to send some Soldiers and Sailors made prisoners, when straggling, by the Peasants

The opinion of the Council of war for Reimbarking the Troops appeared to us, My Lord, to be well founded. For by remaining longer with the Fleet and Forces at Quiberon, which were only Two thousand Six hundred could not be any more Conducive to the Answering the Kings Intentions. The Season was so far advanced, that in all probability, the Flanders Armies, had made the necessary dispositions for Entering into Winters Quarters, so that if we had not already drawn a Detachment from Mareschal Saxe's Troops, We could not by staying longer be able to Effectuate our Design; or if we could, it must be little or no Service to the common Cause. On the other hand if we had been so fortunate as to oblige them to Detach a Considerable party of Troops to oppose us, the Detachment must be so far advanced (by that time our Troops were Reimbark'd the Ships called in, and collected together, from their several Cruizing Stations, and we were ready to Sail with the Squadron and Transports) as not to be Able to return to their Army, before the middle of November. And as we are Injoin'd by our Instructions, not to hazard his Majestys Ships and Forces, and as the Number of the Troops is greatly reduced by sickness, and the separation of Four of the Transports; And as Major General Fuller was not arrived with the battalions under his Command; We thought it our Duty to Reimbark the Troops; In which we humbly hope for His Majestys most Gracious approbation, as the Step we have taken is altogether agreeable to our Instructions, and we have from the beginning of this Expedition till now done our Best for the Success and honour of His Majestys Arms.

8th The Exeter, Hastings and Tavistock Sloop being ordered to Batter a Fort on the South end of the Island of Houat, were obliged to Anchor, not within a proper distance for that purpose on Account of Rocks and Shoal water; at the same time the Boats of the Squadron Landed about One hundred and thirty Seamen under the Command of the Admirals Captain who immediately marched up to a Fort on the west side of the Island and found it abandoned by the Enemy, tho a regular and Modern Fortification, and easily to have been defended, against a much superior Force than that brought against it, having Eleven Embrasures with 2 Six pounders mounted, Situated on a high narrow Craggy Point with proper loopholes for small arms, to have defended the narrow Neck of Land that led to it, towards the Sea, there were steep Rocks, and towards the Land a Draw Bridge, drawn up, and a Moat about fifteen foot wide, and the parapet, that height and about the same in thickness a Double wall of Stone, the Outer one about four foot thick, and the Inner about two, and between them filled up with Earth.

From thence they Marched to the Fort on the South end of the Island; when they came within Musket shot of it, An Officer was sent to Summon it, and the Captain who Commanded it, (after having been refus'd leave to march out with

the honours of War) let down the Draw Bridge and Surrendered himself with his Garrison, Consisting of a Serjeant two Corporals a Drum and thirty private Men, prisoners of War; This Fort was Round, Surounded with a Ditch, over which was a Draw Bridge. In the Wall of this Fort, which was about sixteen foot high from the bottom of the Ditch, there were Embrasures for thirteen Guns tho' there were but seven Mounted. In the middle of the Fort stood a strong round Watch Tower, which by its Structure seemed to be extremely old, It was about Eighty foot high, the lower part of the wall was nine foot thick towards the top, about five; Divided in Six Stories with Loopholes for small Arms; the two undermost were vaulted and Bomb proof, and round the top of the uppermost were placed a quantity of large Stores, in order to defend the Base of the Tower.

9th The Marines were Reimbarked.

10 By the Sentence of a General Court Martial held yesterday and this day Lieutenant Waller was broke with Infamy for Cowardice.

The Battalions of Harrison, Frampton and Richbell were Reimbarked.

11th The Eighteen French Guns found on the Isthmus, were destroy'd and the Battalions of Bragg, Highlanders and Royal went on board. And the Fly Sloop was sent out to Call in the Cruizing Ships that were stationed between the Penmarks and the Cardinals.

A great number of trading Vessels and large boats together with Storehouses belonging to the fishing Factory, having in them great quantities of Fishing Geer and Stores of all Kinds in the Harbour of Quiberon were burnt and destroy'd.

12th The Fleet got under Sail and Anchor'd near the Island of Howat in order to wait for the Cruizers coming in, and to take the Cattle off that Island and to destroy their Forts

13th The Exeter Hastings and Tavistock Sloop being order'd to Batter a Fort on the South end of the Island of Hedic, Anchor'd within two Cables length of the Fort, and fired upon it; at the same time the Boats of the Squadron Landed about five hundred Seamen under the Command of Captain Pearce, who marched up to the Fort, which was just such another with a Watch Tower as that on the South end of Howat, The Officer who Commanded it, being a Lieuten't Surrendered himself with his Garrison at discretion, consisting of a Sergeant a Corporal a Drum and twenty private men.

The prisoners taken from both Islands being Sixty one were sent to Quiberon, and a Major General Commanding there granted a Receipt for them.

The Forts on Houat and Hedic being effectually destroyed with the Trunnions of the Guns Knock'd off, and all the ships being collected together except the Tilbury, which the Admiral expected to see in his passage, The Fleet got under Sail, and the Pool was sent to Cruize as long as her Water would admit between the Penmarks and the Isle of Groa, in order to acquaint the Guards in case they should come; of our return home.

This Account was intended to have been sent Your Grace as soon as the Fleet got out of Quiberon Bay, but the Weather being such, that we could not venture a Boat in the Water, it has been prevented till now, when we have the pleasure to add that We are gott so far in our Return.

The Superb, Ruby, Saphire and Tavistock Brig, are order'd to see the Tran-

sports and Store Ships safe into Cork and Kinsale, and to follow the Admiral, who with the rest of the Squadron after seeing the Convoy a little farther on their way, will agreeable to our Instructions return to Spithead.

We are with great Deference

My Lord

Your Grace

Most Devoted

Faithful Servants

RICH. LESTOCK.

JAM^s ST. CLAIR.

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